C. G. SHEPARD &. P. ADAMS, Jr.

Gate-Latches.

No. 156,044. Patented Oct. 20, 1874.

Fig. 1.

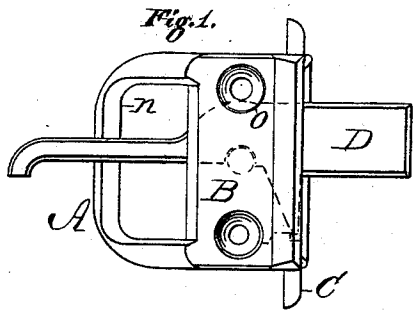


Fig. 2.

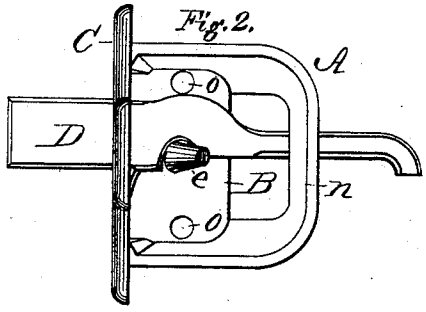


Fig. 3.

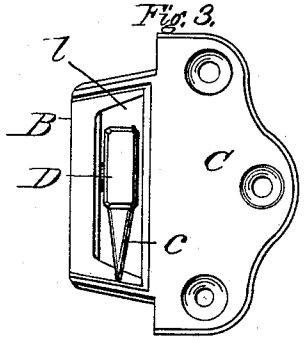


Fig. 4.

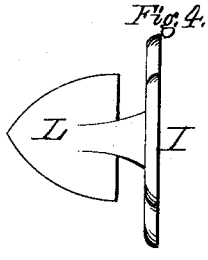
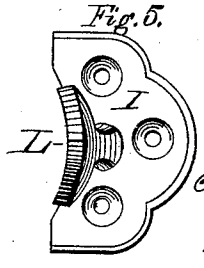


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES G. SHEPARD AND PETER ADAMS, JR., OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNORS TO JOHN D. SHEPARD, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN GATE-LATCHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,044**, dated October 20, 1874; application filed July 11, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, C. G. SHEPARD and PETER ADAMS, Jr., of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Gate-Latches, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The nature of our invention consists in so constructing the case or housing of the latch that it can be made with a plate or bearing on opposite sides of the latch, with a flange at right angles to be secured to the front edge of the gate—all in one piece—and be cast complete with the screw-holes therein; and in combining therewith a reversible latch, so that the device can be used either as a right or left hand latch, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

Figure 1 is a front view of the latch and its case. Fig. 2 is a reverse view of the same; Fig. 3, an edge view of the same, taken at right angles to Figs. 1 and 2. Figs. 4 and 5 are side and front views, respectively, of the catch.

The latch D is made of the form represented in the drawings, the wide end being intended to engage with the catch, while the narrow or rear end serves as a handle. Near its center it has a notch formed in its under edge, and in front thereof it has a depending arm or spur, *c*, as shown in Fig. 3, this spur being of such a length that when the latch is in place the point of this spur will strike against the case, as shown in Fig. 3, and thus prevent its front end, which is heavier than its rear end, from dropping too low down. The case A, in which the latch is to be used, consists of a rectangular concave body or plate, having an opening through it, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the remaining or closed portion B having a stud, *e*, projecting from its under or inner face, as represented in Fig. 2, on which the latch D rests as on a pivot.

The rear portion *n* of the case is enough lower than the part B on its face to permit the latch to be inserted under the part B, and out over or in front of the part *n*, as shown in Fig. 1, there being an opening, *l*, at the front edge of the case for the latch D to protrude through, as shown in Fig. 3. Through the portion B of the case are made two screw-holes, *o*, Figs. 1 and 2, and these are so located in reference to the stud *e* that, when the latch D is inserted in the case and rests on the stud, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, a screw inserted in the hole above the latch will prevent the latch from being displaced; and, as the stud *e* is in the center, and the two holes *o* are equidistant therefrom, it is obvious that the case may be used either side up, thus making the latch reversible, so as to fit equally on a right or left hand gate.

A flange, C, projects at right angles from the front edge, as shown in Fig. 3, in which there are several screw-holes, so that it can be fastened to the gate on its face, and also on its edge.

It is obvious that this flange C may be dispensed with; but I prefer to make it with the flange, as it is stronger and better.

By the peculiar formation of the case A it can be cast complete with the screw-holes therein, the stud *e* being set, at an angle, nearly midway between the planes of the part B and the flange C, to permit it to be readily drawn from the mold, it being also made conical for that purpose.

The catch consists of a base-plate, I, provided with screw-holes, as represented in Fig. 5, from which projects a double or spear headed catch, L, as shown in Fig. 4. This head L has a notch both above and below for the catch to engage in, so that it, too, can be turned either side up, and thus used on the right or left hand with equal facility.

If desired, this may also be formed with a flange at right angles to the plate I, to secure it more firmly to the post, the same as shown on the case A.

By this mode of construction we are enabled to produce a gate-latch that is very light and strong, that is reversible, and can be cast complete without any cores.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

The case A, having the back plate *n*, front plate B, and flange C, constructed substantially as described, whereby the whole can be cast in one piece with the screw-holes complete, as set forth.

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